

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

PUBLIC SPEAKING FORUM

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

6:30 P.M.

This meeting will be conducted by Zoom/Teleconference.

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Nieves called the Public Speaking portion of the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The Assistant City Clerk Frances Ortiz called the roll.

130th District:	Scott Burns, Matthew McCarthy
131st District:	Jorge Cruz, Denese Taylor-Moye
132nd District:	Marcus Brown, M. Evette Brantley
133rd District:	Jeanette Herron
134th District:	Michelle Lyons, <i>AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia</i>
135th District:	Rosalina Roman-Christy, <i>Mary McBride-Lee</i>
136th District:	<i>Alfredo Castillo, Avelino Silva</i>
137th District:	<i>Maria Valle, Aidee Nieves</i>
138th District:	<i>Maria Pereira, Samia Suliman</i>
139th District:	Eneida Martinez, Ernest Newton

There was a quorum present. During the roll call, there appeared to be no response from the individuals whose names are listed in italics. Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia has an excused absence.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSON HAS REQUESTED PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2021 AT 6:30 P.M.

NAME

SUBJECT

John Marshall Lee
30 Beacon Street
Bridgeport, CT 06605

City Oversight.

Mr. Lee read the following statement into the record:

City of Bridgeport
City Council Meeting
Regular Meeting
September 7, 2021

Within two weeks many voters will face an opportunity to replace you thereby rejecting your ‘public service’ to the City of Bridgeport. What do the minority of voters who turn out and cast their party votes know about your actions of the past two years? What could an informed majority of those registered say about some issues? Not new issues but old issues that remain without resolution.

- You have voted on two current budgets and two capital budgets totaling more than one billion dollars. You receive from taxpayers a personal \$9,000 annual Stipend, advanced quarterly, rather than reimbursed per receipts and reports as Statute reads. Some of you do not claim all funds. Stipends are not visible or open to the taxpaying public to see where their funds are spent. Why not? It is simple bookkeeping that can and should be shared publicly. Why not become fully open, accountable, transparent, and honest? Do you see this within your power?
- When the City of Bridgeport is sued, a notice goes to the City Clerk office and is defended by City Attorney office at City expense. And when the City loses, the settlement is sent to you for approval. Council proceedings are in executive session and ‘non-disclosure agreements’ seem to be standard. Why are NDAs and secrecy used to restrict public knowledge after you approve? What is the number of such grievances and the dollar amount annually in recent years? Trending more at higher expense? How many employees have no other “official” manner to report, have recognized, and resolved many issues in the world of employment, labor relations, and Civil Service hierarchy? Where is such a regular information reported?
- Is there a monthly payroll report, showing all full-time Council approved budgeted positions in City departments available to public that identifies all open positions that may include absent, seasonal, vacant, or disabled as an explanation? What other way can public see the vision of department administrators, funded by the current budget to accomplish City work? How many or few are currently at work? How else does the public view the opportunity for hiring fully qualified, trained, folks with integrity, who hopefully live in the City and dedicated to its success?
- You have approved City Capital budget plans twice, as well as actual bonding approvals. Where is the oversight at least quarterly of those funds when received and applied to a project at hand? How do you stay current with the progress of long-term plans and money? Why is there no publicly available report to you or all the City? Would you personally recommend such attention personally regarding personal loans, longer term mortgages, or checking account reports offered to family commercially?
- Requesting speaker slots to appear at Council meetings can be accomplished by form completion and personal delivery to City Clerk, or fax, or USPS letter, **but not on internet**. Who made the decision and to what purpose? What if email was eliminated as a manner of completing COB business, would it be called suppression or old-fashioned, and be opposed?
- Time will tell.

Mr. Lee then asked what the Council intended to do about the recent rash of resignations from the Bridgeport Police Department. He noted that there were two officers who resigned but returned to the Police Department after another town declined to hire them due to inappropriate actions.

ADJOURNMENT

Council President Nieves adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Telesco Secretarial Services

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

7:00 P.M.

This meeting was conducted by teleconference.

The public was able to listen to this meeting by calling a conference line.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ganim called the Regular Meeting of the City Council to order at 7:02 p.m.

PRAYER

Mayor Ganim asked Council Member Newton to lead the Council in prayer.

Council Member Newton noted that Rev. G. Westley had just passed away. Council Member McCarthy asked for a moment of silence for Firefighter Stephen Buda. Council Member McBride-Lee and Council Member Taylor-Moye also mentioned two other Bridgeport residents who had recently passed away.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Ganim asked Council Member Taylor-Moye to lead those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The Assistant City Clerk Frances Ortiz called the roll.

130th District:	Scott Burns, Matthew McCarthy
131st District:	Jorge Cruz, Denese Taylor-Moye
132nd District:	Marcus Brown, <i>M. Evette Brantley</i>
133rd District:	Jeanette Herron
134th District:	Michelle Lyons, <i>AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia</i>
135th District:	Rosalina Roman-Christy, Mary McBride-Lee
136th District:	Alfredo Castillo, Avelino Silva
137th District:	<i>Maria Valle, Aidee Nieves</i>
138th District:	Maria Pereira, <i>Samia Suliman</i>
139th District:	Eneida Martinez, Ernest Newton

A quorum was present. During the roll call, there appeared to be no response from the individuals whose names are listed in italics. Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia has an excused absence. Council Member Brown said that Council Member Nieves had a personal issue and would not be able to attend the meeting.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES AS PER THE BRIDGEPORT CITY CHARTER CHAPTER 2, SECTION 5, TO ADD AN ITEM REGARDING APPROVING RAYMOND COLLETTE TO FILL A COUNCIL MEMBER VACANCY IN THE 133RD DISTRICT CREATED BY THE RESIGNATION OF MICHAEL DEFILIPPO.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON SECONDED.**

Council Member Pereira said that she had not received any information or a resume from Mr. Collette. She asked if the candidate was a City employee.

Mayor Ganim replied that this was only a motion to suspend the rules to add the item to the agenda.

Council Member Martinez said that this was not a job, but an appointment to a vacated District position. There is no need for a resume.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOVED THE QUESTION.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CRUZ SECONDED.**

Council Member Brantley joined the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

A discussion followed about how many votes would be required for an approval.

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH FOURTEEN (14) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BROWN, BRANTLEY, HERRON, LYONS, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN CHRISTY, SILVA, CASTILLO, MARTINEZ AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (PEREIRA).**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON MOVED AS PER THE BRIDGEPORT CITY CHARTER CHAPTER 5, SECTION 2, TO APPOINT RAYMOND A. COLLETTE TO APPROVE RAYMOND COLLETT TO FILL A COUNCIL MEMBER VACANCY IN THE 133RD DISTRICT CREATED BY THE RESIGNATION OF MICHAEL DEFILIPPO.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY SECONDED.**

Council Member Newton said that it has been the practice of the Council that the Town Committee votes on a candidate and then presented to the Council for appointment. He said that in his years on the Council and the Town Committee, there has never been a request for a resume from another District representative. The District Town Committee presents a candidate. There has never been a question about the candidate or a resume required. He said that it would not be

good to start having others who are not part of the District to have input on the District representatives.

Council Member Pereira said that when the vacancy was in the 138th District, Melanie Jackson was required to submit her resume. The basic expectation is that the Council Members will have basic information on the candidates being appointed to the legislative body of the City. She said that she would never support anyone to be appointed to the City Council who was a City employee because it was a conflict of interest. She reiterated that she does not vote on any item that she does not have information on.

Council Member Brantley said that she would echo what Council Member Newton stated. She added that it was entirely up to the various Districts and Ms. Jackson was not required to submit a resume. She was there for the appointment and support Ms. Jackson's appointment. Council Member Brantley stated that the candidate did not work for the City. Council Member Brantley asked that the question be moved.

Council Member Taylor-Moye said that she was surprised that someone from another District would be speaking about this candidate who worked for the Bridgeport Housing Authority. The Bridgeport Housing Authority is not part of the City Administration. She added that the Council Members from other Districts should not be questioning the candidates from other districts.

Council Member Pereira interrupted and objected to Council Member Taylor-Moye's statements by saying that Council Member Taylor-Moye's comments were out of order. The Mayor reminded everyone else that Council Member Taylor-Moye had the floor.

Council Member Herron said that it was a unanimous decision by the District to appoint Mr. Collette to the vacancy. No one has the right to tell the District who they should or should not appoint. If another District requires a candidate's resume, that's their business.

Council Member Herron said that this candidate was amazing. Her District Town Committee reviewed Mr. Collette's qualifications and approved him unanimously. Council Member Herron said that it was unfortunate that this pattern of interference from other districts continues to happen. She requested that the Mayor call the question.

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH FOURTEEN (14) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BROWN, BRANTLEY, HERRON, LYONS, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, SILVA, CASTILLO, MARTINEZ AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (PEREIRA).**

Council Member Suliman stated she had been on earlier, but her phone was muted. She stated that her vote was in favor of the last motion. Assistant City Clerk Ortiz stated that the final vote count was now 15 in favor and 1 opposed. The updated vote result was as follows:

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH FIFTEEN (15) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BROWN, BRANTLEY, HERRON, LYONS, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, SILVA, CASTILLO, SULIMAN, MARTINEZ AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (PEREIRA).**

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

• Approval of City Council Minutes: June 15, 2021 (Public Hearing) and June 21, 2021

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY MOVED TO APPROVE JUNE 15 PUBLIC HEARING AND THE JUNE 21, 2021 MEETING.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MCBRIDE-LEE SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 15 PUBLIC HEARING AND THE JUNE 21, 2021 MEETING PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:

110-20 Communication from City Attorney re: Proposed Settlement of Pending Litigation with Johanna Georgia, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.

112-20 Communication from Public Facilities re: Proposed Resolution regarding the 2021 “Second” Round of Sidewalk Repair Pilot Program, referred to Public Safety and Transportation Committee.

113-20 Communication from Library re: Reappointment of Marcie J. Patton, PH.D. (D) to the Public Library Board of Directors and Reading Room, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.

114-20 Communication from Library re: Reappointment of Thomas R. Errichetti, (D) to the Public Library Board of Directors and Reading Room, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.

115-20 Communication from Library re: Appointment of Barbara A. Rogo, (R) to the Public Library Board of Directors and Reading Room, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.

117-20 Communication from Central Grants re: Grant Submission: Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) Public Assistance Disaster Relief for Tropical Storm Isaias, referred to Public Safety and Transportation Committee.

118-20 Communication from OPED re: Proposed Professional Services Agreement with the Downtown Special Services District to Manage Activation and Placemaking Projects within Downtown, referred to Contracts Committee.

119-20 Communication from OPED re: Proposed Professional Services Agreement with the Trust for Public Land to Manage Activation and Placemaking Projects along the City's Waterfront pursuant to Waterfront Bridgeport, referred to Contracts Committee.

120-20 Communication from City Attorney re: Proposed Solar Roof Panel Power Purchase Agreement with Davis Hill Development for the Cart Barn at Fairchild-Wheeler Golf Course, referred to Contracts Committee.

121-20 Communication from City Attorney re: Proposed Solar Roof Panel Power Purchase Agreement between CEFIA Holdings LLC, the Bridgeport Public Library and the City for the Burroughs-Saden Main Library and the North Branch Library, referred to Contracts Committee.

RESOLUTIONS TO BE REFERRED TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, ETC.:

111-20 Resolution presented by Council Member Herron & Co-sponsor(s) Cruz, Silva, Newton, Martinez, Brantley, Roman-Christy & Valle re: Proposed resolution seeking information on recent outages from The United Illuminating Company, referred to Public Safety and Transportation.

116-20 Resolution presented by Council Member Burns re: Proposed resolution urging State Senators and State Representatives to pass necessary legislation to implement the Transportation and Climate Initiative Program ("TCI-P"), referred to Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOVED TO CONSOLIDATE AND REFER THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES :**

COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:

110-20 COMMUNICATION FROM CITY ATTORNEY RE: PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH JOHANNA GEORGIA, REFERRED TO MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE.

112-20 COMMUNICATION FROM PUBLIC FACILITIES RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION REGARDING THE 2021 "SECOND" ROUND OF SIDEWALK REPAIR PILOT PROGRAM, REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

113-20 COMMUNICATION FROM LIBRARY RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF MARCIE J. PATTON, PH.D. (D) TO THE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND READING ROOM, REFERRED TO MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE.

114-20 COMMUNICATION FROM LIBRARY RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF THOMAS R. ERRICHETTI, (D) TO THE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND READING ROOM, REFERRED TO MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE.

115-20 COMMUNICATION FROM LIBRARY RE: APPOINTMENT OF BARBARA A. ROGO, (R) TO THE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND READING ROOM, REFERRED TO MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE.

117-20 COMMUNICATION FROM CENTRAL GRANTS RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS) FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATION (FEMA) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE DISASTER RELIEF FOR TROPICAL STORM ISAIAS, REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

118-20 COMMUNICATION FROM OPED RE: PROPOSED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE DOWNTOWN SPECIAL SERVICES DISTRICT TO MANAGE ACTIVATION AND PLACEMAKING PROJECTS WITHIN DOWNTOWN, REFERRED TO CONTRACTS COMMITTEE.

119-20 COMMUNICATION FROM OPED RE: PROPOSED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND TO MANAGE ACTIVATION AND PLACEMAKING PROJECTS ALONG THE CITY'S WATERFRONT PURSUANT TO WATERFRONT BRIDGEPORT, REFERRED TO CONTRACTS COMMITTEE.

120-20 COMMUNICATION FROM CITY ATTORNEY RE: PROPOSED SOLAR ROOF PANEL POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH DAVIS HILL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE CART BARN AT FAIRCHILD-WHEELER GOLF COURSE, REFERRED TO CONTRACTS COMMITTEE.

121-20 COMMUNICATION FROM CITY ATTORNEY RE: PROPOSED SOLAR ROOF PANEL POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CEFIA HOLDINGS LLC, THE BRIDGEPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY AND THE CITY FOR THE BURROUGHS-SADEN MAIN LIBRARY AND THE NORTH BRANCH LIBRARY, REFERRED TO CONTRACTS COMMITTEE.

RESOLUTIONS TO BE REFERRED TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, ETC.:

111-20 RESOLUTION PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON & CO-SPONSOR(S) CRUZ, SILVA, NEWTON, MARTINEZ, BRANTLEY, ROMAN-CHRISTY & VALLE RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION SEEKING INFORMATION ON RECENT OUTAGES FROM THE UNITED

ILLUMINATING COMPANY, REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION.

116-20 RESOLUTION PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION URGING STATE SENATORS AND STATE REPRESENTATIVES TO PASS NECESSARY LEGISLATION TO IMPLEMENT THE TRANSPORTATION AND CLIMATE INITIATIVE PROGRAM (“TCI-P”), REFERRED TO ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON (CONSENT CALENDAR):

***97-20 Public Safety and Transportation Committee Report re: Resolution regarding the 2021 “First” Round of Sidewalk Repair Pilot Program.**

***102-20 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: State of Connecticut Department of Children and Families – Youth Services Bureau Enhancement Grant (#22540).**

***103-20 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: State of Connecticut Department of Public Health Per Capita Funding Allocation (#22220).**

***104-20 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: State of Connecticut Department of Children and Families – Youth Services Bureau (#22532).**

***105-20 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: United States Conference of Mayors for the 2021 Climate Protection Awards (#22450).**

***65-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Refund of Excess Payments – Seaview Bridgeport II, LLC.**

***87-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Appointment of Johana Dorgan (D) to the Planning & Zoning Commission.**

***88-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Appointment of Jacqueline Martoral (U) to the Planning & Zoning Commission.**

***95-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Sasha Collins.**

***96-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Dwayne McBride.**

***108-20 Contracts Committee Report re: Resolution regarding Internship Agreements with Sacred Heart University.**

Mayor Ganim asked if any Council Member wished to have an item removed from the Consent Calendar.

Council Member Pereira stated that Agenda Items 87-20 and 88-20 were required to have a roll call vote under the City Charter because they are appointments to Boards and Commissions. She also requested that Agenda Items 95-20, 96-20 and 108-20 be removed from the Consent Calendar.

Council Member Brantley stated that she would be abstaining from Agenda Items 103-20 and 104-20.

The Assistant City Clerk read the remaining Consent Agenda Items into the record.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

***97-20 PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION REGARDING THE 2021 “FIRST” ROUND OF SIDEWALK REPAIR PILOT PROGRAM.**

***102-20 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES – YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU ENHANCEMENT GRANT (#22540).**

***103-20 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH PER CAPITA FUNDING ALLOCATION (#22220).**

***104-20 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES – YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU (#22532).**

***105-20 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS FOR THE 2021 CLIMATE PROTECTION AWARDS (#22450).**

***65-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE:
REFUND OF EXCESS PAYMENTS – SEAVIEW BRIDGEPORT II, LLC.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY FOR AGENDA ITEMS 97-20, 102-20, 105-20 AND 65-20. AGENDA ITEMS 103-20 AND 104-20 PASSED WITH FIFTEEN (15) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BROWN, HERRON, LYONS, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, PEREIRA, SILVA, CASTILLO, SULIMAN, MARTINEZ AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) ABSTENTION (BRANTLEY).**

87-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Appointment of Johana Dorgan (D) to the Planning & Zoning Commission.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS MOVED THE ITEM.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED.**

Council Member Pereira said that she had spoken about this issue in committee and there were many people who could serve in the 300 plus positions on Boards and Commissions. Ms. Dorgan is a Democrat Party member appointed to the position. They constantly recycle the same people and ignore the others who could fill the positions.

Council Member Pereira said one of her constituents, who was a Republican, had been told that the Mayor was pleased with the current committee members despite the fact that their terms had expired and there would not be any changes made.

Council Member Pereira said that Ms. Dorgan was the secretary for the Democratic Town Committee and this is a conflict of interest, so for that reason she will be opposing the nomination.

Mayor Ganim said that he did not know which Mayor Council Member Pereira was referring to. He said that there was nothing that would prevent someone who was affiliated with a political party from serving on a board or commission.

Council Member Newton pointed out that Ms. Dorgan had served on the Commission before and she should not be excluded because she was part of the Democratic Town Committee.

Council Member Herron said that people need to be muted during meetings. As professionals, they should not be yelling out. They should be raising their hands. She added that if people are unhappy with the Democratic Party, perhaps they should move on.

Council Member Lyons said that she had been on the Council for a good length of time and has interacted with the Planning and Zoning Commission many times. She is familiar with Ms. Dorgan's past decisions and felt that Ms. Dorgan made qualified decisions.

Council Member Martinez said that she was asking her colleagues to support Ms. Dorgan. If Ms. Dorgan is good enough to serve on the Democratic Town Committee, then she should be good enough to serve on the Commission. The Council should move the question rather than to continue to embarrass Ms. Dorgan.

Council Member Cruz said that if there was a Council Member on the Council who continues to bash the Democratic Party, that Council Member should resign from the Democratic Party.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 87-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: APPOINTMENT OF JOHANA DORGAN (D) TO THE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION PASSED WITH FIFTEEN (15) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BROWN, BRANTLEY, HERRON, LYONS, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, SILVA, CASTILLO, SULIMAN, MARTINEZ AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (PEREIRA).**

88-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Appointment of Jacqueline Martoral (U) to the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Council Member Burns noted that Ms. Martoral was listed as an Unaffiliated and she is a registered Republican.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS MOVED THE ITEM.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED.**

Council Member Pereira said that this candidate was filling a minority seat and they had been registered as a Democrat, but the candidate switched her registration the day before and this was unethical.

Council Member Newton asked Council Member Burns to verify the issue. Council Member Burns said that he had noted the discrepancy and spoken with the candidate, who had moved to Bridgeport from New York. Once she realized the problem, Ms. Martoral filed to change her affiliation.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 88-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: APPOINTMENT OF JACQUELINE MARTORAL (U) TO THE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION PASSED WITH FIFTEEN (15) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BROWN, BRANTLEY, HERRON, LYONS, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, SILVA, CASTILLO, SULIMAN, MARTINEZ AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (PEREIRA).**

95-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Sasha Collins.

96-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Dwayne McBride.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS MOVED AGENDA ITEMS 95-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH SASHA COLLINS AND 96-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH DWAYNE MCBRIDE.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED.**

Council Member Pereira asked if Mr. McBride was a City Employee. Council Member Burns confirmed that Mr. McBride was a City employee.

Council Member Pereira asked if Mr. McBride was a former Police Officer who now works for 9-1-1 at the Operations Center. Council Member Pereira was told that this was correct.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS:**

95-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH SASHA COLLINS.

96-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH DWAYNE MCBRIDE.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

108-20 Contracts Committee Report re: Resolution regarding Internship Agreements with Sacred Heart University.

Council Member Pereira said that she had mistakenly requested that this item be removed from the Consent Agenda.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MCCARTHY MOVED THE ITEM.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CRUZ SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 108-20 CONTRACTS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION REGARDING INTERNSHIP AGREEMENTS WITH SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON:

109-20 Ordinance Committee Report re: Amendment to the Municipal Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2.06 – Common Council, amend to add New Section 2.06.080 – Mandatory use of city assigned web address for City Council business emails.

Council Member Newton said that it was brought to his attention by Atty. Anastasi that this Agenda Items should be referred back to Committee.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED TO REFER AGENDA ITEM 109-20 ORDINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT RE: AMENDMENT TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 2.06 – COMMON COUNCIL, AMEND TO ADD NEW SECTION 2.06.080 – MANDATORY USE OF CITY ASSIGNED WEB ADDRESS FOR CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS EMAILS BACK TO COMMITTEE.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MCCARTHY SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH FIFTEEN (15) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BROWN, BRANTLEY, HERRON, LYONS, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, SILVA, CASTILLO, SULIMAN, MARTINEZ AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (PEREIRA).**

86-20 Public Safety and Transportation Committee Report re: Grant Submission: Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Port Security Grant Program (#22369, #22388, #22390, #22392, #22393).

**** COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR-MOYE MOVED AGENDA ITEM 86-20 PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS) FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) PORT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (#22369, #22388, #22390, #22392, #22393).**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON SECONDED.**

Council Member Pereira said she voted against the item because based on her previous statements, Council Member Pereira wished to make it clear for the record that she was opposing the application not because of the substance of the application but because there is language in every one of these resolutions, it allows the Mayor and/or any of his designees to sign any contract or agreement without coming to the Contracts Committee.

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH FIFTEEN (15) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BROWN, BRANTLEY, HERRON, LYONS, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, SILVA, CASTILLO, SULIMAN, MARTINEZ AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (PEREIRA).**

90-20 Public Safety and Transportation Committee Report re: Resolution Authorizing Driveway Variance, Right of Way Modification and Johnson Street Conversion to Two-Way – Windward Apartments, 20 Johnson Street.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR-MOYE MOVED AGENDA ITEM 90-20 PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DRIVEWAY VARIANCE, RIGHT OF WAY MODIFICATION AND JOHNSON STREET CONVERSION TO TWO-WAY – WINDWARD APARTMENTS, 20 JOHNSON STREET.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CRUZ SECONDED.**

Council Member Taylor-Moye said that the project had been discussed and questions had been asked about the right of way. Any additional questions or concerns should have been brought to the co-chairs of the Committee. She requested her constituents to support this item.

Council Member Pereira said that she had voted against this item in Committee. She said that the City could not have a City sidewalk or right of way on private property according to the Zoning regulations and the City Ordinances. The proposal is to take the normal pathway to get into the complex parking area and make it into a City sidewalk. This is prohibited by City ordinance and the Zoning regulations. She said that she would not be supporting this.

Council Member Newton said that at the Committee meeting, the issue was clearly explained by the individuals and the Committee felt it was not on private property. He asked the Council to support this item.

Council Member Taylor-Moye said that this had been discussed again and she was astounded that the Council Member does not want to see development in any District but her own.

Mayor Ganim encouraged the Council members to contact the City Attorney's Office if they had questions regarding the legal aspects of any proposal.

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH FIFTEEN (15) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BROWN, BRANTLEY, HERRON, LYONS, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, SILVA, CASTILLO, SULIMAN, MARTINEZ AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (PEREIRA).**

106-20 Contracts Committee Report re: Nomination of Ebony Jackson-Shaheed for Appointment to the City's Director of Health Position.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MCCARTHY MOVED AGENDA ITEM 106-20 CONTRACTS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: NOMINATION OF EBONY JACKSON-SHAHEED FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE CITY'S DIRECTOR OF HEALTH POSITION.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY SECONDED.**

Council Member Newton announced that the Ms. Jackson-Shaheed had moved to Bridgeport with her family. There should be no question about this. She has done an excellent job in helping the City in a time of need.

Council Member Lyons said that she would be abstaining from the vote because her daughter works for the Health Department.

Council Member Pereira said that this was not personal. She said that her issue was that this position required a Master's in Public Health and Ms. Jackson-Shaheed only received her

Master's 2 years ago. Ms. Jackson-Shaheed had not had extensive experience and Bridgeport is the largest city with the highest number of COVID cases and deaths.

Council Member McCarthy said that he was supporting Ms. Jackson-Shaheed for the position but noted that this was a crisis and the City had an Acting Personnel Director and an Acting Chief of Police. He said that they need to start the search for a Police Chief.

Council Member Herron said that hiring someone with someone with Ms. Jackson-Shaheed's experience is a positive thing. Ms. Jackson-Shaheed arrived when the Health Department was in a fractured condition but managed to work hard and help the City move forward. Ms. Jackson-Shaheed has been in management for eight years.

Council Member Herron added that she agreed with Council Member McCarthy that they had to start the search for a Police Chief.

Council Member McBride-Lee said that she felt better about how the pandemic was being handled in the City. She added that when she first walked into her classroom, she had never been a teacher before, and the same was true when she became a preacher and a Council Member.

Council Member Martinez said that the Council was there to support Ms. Jackson-Shaheed and people often walk into situations when they don't have experience. She said that Ms. Jackson-Shaheed was being attacked for her lack of experience and Ms. Jackson-Shaheed should not take it personally. Council Member Martinez said it was also good to have a person of color in the position.

Council Member Silva said that he was pleased with this appointment because Ms. Jackson-Shaheed had moved to Bridgeport.

Council Member Newton said every Afro-American woman who was appointed by the Mayor's administration has been attacked. He said that it was a shame when certain groups are held to a higher standard than others. He will not allow people to make unchecked statements. The Council members do not have the right to degrade people who are qualified.

Council Member Roman-Christy said that she had watched how Ms. Jackson-Shaheed handled the situation during the Central High School inoculations clinic. Council Member Roman-Christy added that there was a serious problem in her district that required immediate attention and Ms. Jackson-Shaheed handled the situation within 3 days.

Council Member Cruz said that in the two years he has been on the Council, he had never been so excited as he was with Ms. Jackson-Shaheed's appointment. She moved to Bridgeport as she said she would. He then asked the Mayor to fill the other vacant Deputy positions.

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH FOURTEEN (14) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BROWN, BRANTLEY, HERRON, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, SILVA, CASTILLO, SULIMAN, MARTINEZ AND NEWTON), ONE (1) ABSTENTION (LYONS) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (PEREIRA).**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

59-20 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Resolution Authorizing the Disposition of Three (3) City-Owned Properties.

Council Member Brantley said that Mr. Perez was present to speak on the item.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY MOVED AGENDA ITEM 59-20 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF THREE (3) CITY-OWNED PROPERTIES.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER ROMAN-CHRISTY SECONDED.**

Mr. Perez greeted the Council Members and explained that the proposal was to sell three parcels. They will be offered to either the abutters or at auction.

Council Member Burns said that this item was on the agenda for several months. He said that the evaluation for the properties were done before the re-evaluation. He said that he felt that they might be undervalued significantly.

Council Member Pereira said that the three properties were referred to Planning and Zoning, but Mr. Coleman requested that they be tabled. The 10-84 report has not been issued.

Council Member Newton said that the properties were located in his district.

Mr. Perez said the parcels were 1503 State Street, rear lot; 35 [inaudible] and 1564 Seaview Avenue. Mr. Perez said that all three lots have been issued 8-24 referrals which were dated December of 2020. He added that the appraisals were approximately 8 months old.

Council Member Brantley said that she would like to see the property appraisals updated.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM 59-20 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF THREE (3) CITY-OWNED PROPERTIES.**

****COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

- ** COUNCIL MEMBER ROMAN-CHRISTY MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
- ** COUNCIL MEMBER CRUZ SECONDED.**

Council Member Lyons wished Council Member Brantley a happy belated birthday.

- ** THE MOTION TO ADJOURN PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Telesco Secretarial Services